



HERTFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

Thursday 10 November 2016
East Herts District Council

MINUTES

Members Present: Cllr T Hutchings, Broxbourne Borough Council (Chairman)
Cllr Ms S Batson, Stevenage Borough Council
Cllr P Choudhury, Hertsmere Borough Council
Cllr S Hodgson, St Albans City and District Council
Cllr Ms I Imarni, Dacorum Borough Council
Mr I Laidlaw-Dickson, Independent Member
Dr M Ramsay, Independent Member
Cllr S Reed, East Herts District Council
Cllr P Ruffles, Hertfordshire County Council

Also Present: Mr C Head, Clerk to the Police and Crime Panel
Mr D Lloyd, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC)
Mr D Gibson, Deputy PCC
Mr R Wilsher, Chief Executive, PCC
Mr S Nagler, Assistant PCC
Dr Amie Birkhamshaw, Head of Policy and Engagement, PCC
Mr P Scoins, Senior Communications & Engagement Officer, PCC
Cllr D Andrews, Hertfordshire County Council
Cllr D Bell, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council
DI M Bromley, Hertfordshire Police
DS S Dowty, Hertfordshire Police

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

Cllr M Brooks, Three Rivers District Council
Cllr T Hunter, North Hertfordshire District Council
Cllr R Martin, Watford Borough Council
Cllr R Trigg, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council

The Chairman introduced the new Clerk to the Panel, Clive Head, and recorded his thanks to the previous Clerk, Tom Hewins.

2 **MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 21 JULY 2016 AND 9 AUGUST 2016**

The minutes of the meetings were agreed.

3 **MATTERS ARISING**

The Chairman thanked the Commissioner for his written responses to questions raised at the meeting of 21 July.

With regard to the question of the M25 investigations, Mr Wilsher reported that the Constabulary have not changed their procedures and are not aware of any increase in delays.

The Chairman noted that the recruitment of an independent member is to be pursued (discussed in more detail later in this meeting under Item 8).

4 **QUESTIONS TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions.

5 **QUESTIONS TO THE PANEL FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions.

6 **PRESENTATION ON CYBERCRIME**

DS Dowty gave a presentation on cybercrime, highlighting issues regarding the collection and analysis of data. This was followed by a general discussion and DS Dowty answered many questions raised by Panel members.

The Chairman thanked DS Dowty on behalf of the Panel and wished him and his team well in their endeavours.

7 **REVIEW UPDATES**

a) Cybercrime

Mr Laidlaw-Dickson noted the problem of definition and recommended that the Panel should continue to monitor this area and keep it on the agenda. He expressed concern about treating this as a different crime type and asked the Commissioner whether sufficient resources were allocated to this.

The Commissioner agreed that this should not be treated as a separate type of crime, even though this technology has produced some new crimes. He noted that, although he sets the plan, it is for the Chief Constable to determine where his budget is spent.

b) Performance and Statistics

Dr Ramsay reported that more information will become available as the data builds up over the next few years. He noted that at a national level it is possible to measure and compare two sources of data – recorded crime data and the crime survey. The Chairman asked him to maintain a watching brief.

c) Force Collaboration

The Chairman reported that a joint meeting of the Chairs of the Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire Panels is planned for 25 November 2016.

He noted that he will be unable to attend the meeting of the Eastern Region PCP Network on 16 November 2016. Cllr Imarni volunteered to take his place. Mr Head will also attend.

Dr Ramsay reported back on the National Conference, noting the diversity in approach and thinking, as well as the variety of initiatives on collaboration.

8 FORWARD PLANNING

The Chairman proposed employing an intern for a few months to investigate the operations and performance of other Panels and the objectives of other PCCs. This was supported by the Panel, with Cllr Ruffles suggesting that the focus should be on other PCCs to inform an understanding of sensitivities and biases in the Plan, and the challenge of meeting demands within finite budgets.

The Chairman gave details of the planned timetable for the recruitment of an Independent Member, which aims to shortlist applicants by the end of December, with interviews being held mid-January and the appointment being made shortly thereafter. Cllr Imarni, Cllr Hodgson and Dr Ramsay volunteered to form the interview panel.

9 OUTLINE OF THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER'S COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLAN

The Commissioner drew the Panel's attention to the fact that he has given this year's police and crime plan the title of Community Safety and Criminal Justice Plan in order to draw attention to its emphasis on these key policy areas.

He gave an overview of the Outline Plan and noted that this was the first stage in the consultation process leading to publication of the Plan in February 2017.

The Outline Plan was discussed and the Commissioner answered a number of questions from Panel members.

10 UPDATE FROM THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

The Commissioner's report was noted.

The Commissioner reported that Mr Wilsher has been appointed the National Fire Chiefs Chair from 1 April 2017 and will therefore resign as Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive of the PCC. He noted that the Panel will have a role to play in the process for the appointment of a new Chief Executive. The Chairman congratulated Mr Wilsher on behalf of the Panel.

11 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

12 **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 2 February 2017 at a venue to be confirmed. Cllrs Batson, Choudhury and Imarni offered their respective council offices as venues for future meetings.